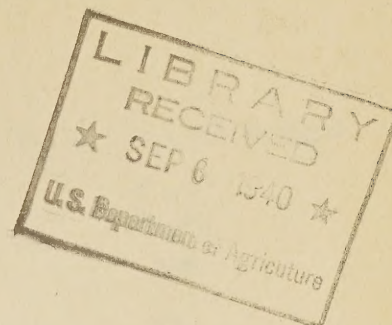


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

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Attitudes of Farmers

toward

Adequacy of Soil Conservation in Farm Programs

Preliminary Report

(FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY)

July 11, 1940

Division of Program Surveys

INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPHIC UNION

CONVENTION OF 1934

1934

1934

THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPHIC UNION OF THE ALPHABET

ARTICLE 1

THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPHIC UNION OF THE ALPHABET

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Question: Do the programs 1/ require all the land building that you think is necessary?

Sample: Interviews with 499 farmers in 21 states between mid-February and May 18, 1940. 2/

Summary of Results

1. What proportion of farmers think that the programs build the land enough?

	% of Farmers
S.C. programs effective--do good job	30%
Programs are building the land but more could be done	18
Programs not building the land enough	34
Opposed to whole S.C. program	3
Don't know or not concerned	<u>15</u>
	100%
No. replies	418

2. How do crop regions differ in their appraisal of the amount of land building achieved by the programs?

: Programs Effective :		: Programs good but :		: Programs Inadequate :	
		could do more			
% of Farm- ers in re- gion <u>3/</u>		% of Farm- ers in re- gion <u>3/</u>		% of Farm- ers in re- gion <u>3/</u>	
Cotton	46	Wheat	39	Corn	62
Gt. Lakes					
Dairy	33	Corn	12	Cotton	30
Wheat	32	Gt. Lakes		Gt. Lakes	
		Dairy	10	Dairy	23
Corn	11	Cotton	5	Wheat	19

In addition, 10% of farmers in the Great Lakes Dairy region indicate opposition to the entire soil conservation programs and a further 24% state that they are unconcerned or uninformed about them.

- "Programs" refers to those activities of AAA and SCS which are directed toward soil conservation. Actually, the overwhelming proportion of farmers have AAA in mind when discussing such work.
- Ind., Ill., Iowa, Mo., Wisc., Minn., Neb., Col., Kan., Okla., Tex., Ark., La., Miss., Ala., Tenn., S.C., Va., Conn., Mass., N.H.
- Dividing 499 interviews among several crop regions reduces the size of the sample in some to the point where results based on them are subject to substantial variation. In the present study corn and cotton samples run slightly over and under 100 farmers; Wheat and Gt. Lakes Dairy samples run on either side of 60 farmers in representation.

3. What factors seen related to farmers' appraisals of the adequacy of land building achieved by the programs?

The extent of erosion and depletion on their farms seems to be more closely related to these attitudes than either their tenure or economic level.

Programs Adequate		Programs good but could do more	Program Inadequate	Size of Sample
% of Farmers		% of Farmers	% of Farmers	
Little ero- sion and depletion	30	21	36	132
Some ero- sion and depletion	29	20	32	191
Much ero- sion and depletion	11	16	52	56

Note: Degree of erosion and depletion on the interviewee's farm were judged by our field men. "Size of Sample" refers to the number of farmers interviewed whose farms fell into each category. The percentage figures indicate the proportion of those with farms having a given degree of erosion and depletion who felt that the programs were adequate or inadequate.

